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Editor's note

Eräsaari, Matti

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EDITOR'S NOTE

This issue of *Suomen Antropologi: Journal of the Finnish Anthropological Society* opens with two articles that both, very broadly speaking, address questions of place in post-socialist settings, although from completely different angles.

Tanya Richardson (Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Canada) discusses the 'amphibious' characteristics of the Ukrainian town of Vilkovo in an article titled 'The Terrestrialization of Amphibious Life in a Danube Delta "Town on Water"'. The article employs the concept of 'the amphibious' in order to highlight the particularity of socio-natural processes that are neither terrestrial nor aquatic; it also poses the more immediate question, 'Why are Vilkovo's canals filling in with silt?' A subsequent overview of the problems and conflicts generated by excess silt takes us on a detour through the infilling canals of the 'Ukrainian Venice' and, ultimately, shows us how little we yet understand about living with water that can reach up to our doorsteps.

In 'A Site Shaped by Discontinuity: The Practices of Place-Making in a Post-Soviet Military Base in Poland' Dagnosław Demski and Dominika Czarnecka (Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw) discuss the case of Borne Sulnowo, a recently-established town that has, over a relatively short time, undergone the transition from a German fishing village to first a German, then a Soviet military base, before its establishment as a Polish town. The authors use the history of a place where discontinuity has been the most constant defining feature to describe the means available to town residents and administrators when creating a sense of local identity: the symbolic, the institutional, the commercial. While describing practices such as making and dismantling monuments, rebranding and renaming—I am thinking of a street that has gone from 'Adolf Hitler Avenue' to 'Joseph Stalin Avenue' to 'Independence Avenue'—the authors also provide a sense of the restricted choice available for the project of conscious place-making.

These two articles are followed by 'The Fieldwork Playlist' edited by Gavin Weston (Goldsmiths College, UK), Dominique Santos (Rhodes University, South Africa), William Tantam (Institute of Latin American Studies, UK) and Kieran Fenby-Hulse (Coventry University). The authors of this Special Section describe a variety of ways in which music—particularly songs—can evoke or call attention to specific issues that emerged during their fieldwork. The collection ranges from analysing songs that were allocated new meanings in new socio-cultural contexts, to songs that have the ability to highlight particular aspects of the fieldwork experience, or to fieldwork where music was actually the medium of interaction or focus of research. What this collection reveals through the sheer breadth of the

material is the largely understudied potential of music in understanding the interpersonal aspects of practicing anthropology. Where the ability of a smell or taste to evoke forgotten memories is now a generally accepted truism, the potential of music still remains to be explored.

From an editorial point of view, the collection also calls attention the 2,000+ word mini essay format. In a field where the full-length, peer-reviewed research article has become the norm, it is easy to forget that we actually have a broad range of alternative text formats available for different kinds of messages. I take this opportunity to remind everyone that *Suomen Antropologi* is happy to provide a publishing avenue for texts that might not fit some other journals' more rigid publishing categories.

The issue closes with three book reviews: Matti Eräsaari reviews *Marking Indigeneity: The Tongan Art of Sociospatial Relations* by Tēvita O. Ka'ili, Grace I-An Gao reviews *Sámi Society Matters* by Elina Helander-Renvall, and Antti Lindfors reviews *Moral Anthropology: A Critique* edited by Bruce Kapferer and Marina Gold.

MATTI ERÄSAARI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF